# JOINT DECLARATION OF COOPERATION

### **BETWEEN**

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA COMMISSION FOR
THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICA'S HERITAGE ABROAD
AND

THE STATE OF ISRAEL MINISTRY OF DIASPORA AFFAIRS

ON

## THE PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN CULTURAL PROPERTIES

The United States Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad ("the Commission") and the Israel Ministry of Diaspora Affairs ("the Ministry") (hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Participants"),

Remembering that the Holocaust and communist governments decimated populations throughout Europe that would have continued to care for properties, as well as intellectual property and objects of historic interest associated with the cultural heritage of many of their citizens;

Concerned about the consequent deterioration, disappearance, and loss of properties related to the cultural heritage of their citizens; and

Desiring to work together to enhance the preservation of such properties;

Have reached the following understanding and jointly declare as follows:

## **SECTION 1**

The Participants share the goal of preserving properties of historic significance, cemeteries, and monuments that are associated with the heritage of their respective citizens, including any object of historic interest, memorials, and archival materials (collectively referred to as "objects of cultural heritage").

#### **SECTION 2**

The Participants intend to cooperate in identifying damaged, deteriorated, or obscured sites and related objects of cultural heritage in Eastern and Central Europe. They also intend to work together to help preserve such objects of cultural heritage through joint projects as may be jointly decided from time to time.

## **SECTION 3**

The projects referenced in Section 2 and the allocation of funds by the Participants for such projects are to be implemented in accordance with the laws and regulations of both

Participants' countries, including with full respect for the authority of and cooperation with other governments which are not signatories to the Declaration, but which have jurisdiction over the sites and other objects of cultural heritage.

#### **SECTION 4**

The Commission and the Ministry intend to appoint representatives ("Relationship Managers") to be responsible for the management and development of the relationship between the Participants under this Declaration. The Relationship Managers should communicate at least once every calendar quarter. Each Participant intends to notify the other in writing of the name and contact details of its Relationship Manager or such person as may be designated in his/her absence.

## **SECTION 5**

The Ministry, on behalf of the Israeli government, intends to facilitate the securing of all necessary and appropriate government authorizations or licenses for the implementation of any projects decided between the Participants.

This Declaration is intended to take effect upon signature and remain in effect unless and until either Participant informs the other of its intention to withdraw from participation. A Participant desiring to withdraw from participation under this Declaration should seek to provide at least 30 days' written notice to the other Participant through its Relationship Manager.

The Participants acknowledge that this Declaration does not create any rights or obligations under international law or the laws of either Participant. Any cooperation under this Declaration is subject to the availability of funds for such purposes.
SIGNED at, on this <b>26</b> day of <b>February</b> 201 <b>8</b> in duplicate, in the English and Hebrew languages, both texts being the same.
FOR THE COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICA'S HERITAGE ABROAD:
Chairman Paul Packer
FOR THE MINISTRY OF DIASPORA AFFAIRS:

Ambassador David Friedman

Director General Dvir Kahana